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 Univ. of Michigan
 Medical Economics

May 4, 1943

Dear Doctor Sinai:

I have studied your proposal and weighed it in connection with other proposals coming before us at this time. As I told you comparisons at this time are particularly difficult, because of the uncertainty of the future demands which may be made upon us.

Placing your request for \$90,000 over a five-year period in comparison with an assumed five-year continuation of the salaries and other expenses now supported by the School of Public Health, it is clear that the ratio of the request to the present scale of support would be nearly 2 to 1. Not only does a 200% increase provide a very great change in status, but the assurance over a five-year period would of itself represent a qualitative advantage which is unusual at this time.

It would seem to me wiser for you to set your sights at what in a year's period you could learn from the use of \$7,500, without the salary, travel and other expenses of an assistant director. In point of library accessions, the office analysis of current information on laws and plans, the services of a statistician in the study of material already accumulated, and in point of your own study, a grant of \$7,500 would enable you to do a great deal of good without running the risk of mining more than you can smelt. You must have a great deal of accumulated material all ready for analysis and study. Perhaps it is not quite appropriate for me to say as an outsider, but I think there is solid progress and sounder status for you with 76% increase over your University budget the first year than a 146% increase. That presupposes that you will be entirely free from the loads imposed on you through Dr. Vaughan's illness this year; if you were to continue with such an extra load, I am quite sure the best use of a large increase would be problematical.

I should add that a five-year grant of \$90,000 would not pass our Board this spring. Such a scale of expenditure would have to be on something they know much more about and on the basis of some antecedent experience, as well - precedent, if you choose, but rather important none the less.

Dr. Nathan Sinai

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You may be desperately disappointed. I hope not, for I think you will not regret it, a year from now, when experience in methods and the knowledge of what this kind of outside assistance involves will be clearly in hand. Why don't you let me have a budget showing how you would use \$7,500 over a year beginning at any time after May 31?

Yours sincerely,

ALAN GREGG

Dr. Nathan Sinai
University of Michigan School of Public Health
Ann Arbor, Michigan

AG:VWS